

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Li

Application No.: 09/400,132

Filed: 09/21/1999

Title: Apparatus and Method for Distributing
Management Keys in a Multicast Domain

Attorney Docket No.: 2204/152 120-156

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 2135

Examiner: Klimach

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RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This response is submitted in reply to the Office Action of June 17, 2004.

REMARKS

Claims 1-92 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 17, 32, 47, 63 and 78 are independent claims. All claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 in view of at least one of the combinations of Caronni in view of Wasilewski, Caronni in view of Wasilewski further in view of Foladare, and Caronni in view of Wasilewski further in view of Kadansky. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 distinguishes the cited combination of Caronni and Wasilewski because a virtual channel is selected from a plurality of virtual channels for communications by the requestor in response to a desired time period of communication by the requestor. The Office concedes that Caronni does not disclose this feature, but suggests that Wasilewski teaches that a subscriber can